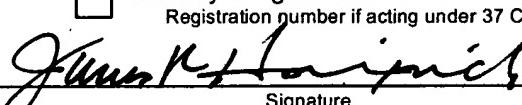


PTO/SB/22 (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031  
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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)		Docket Number (Optional)																								
FY 2006 (Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).)		N/A																								
Application Number	10/705,654	Filed NOV. 10, 2003																								
For SYSTEM & METHOD FOR FACILITATING & OPTIMIZING... ALTERNATIVE PROCESS																										
Art Unit	2121	Examiner MICHAEL B. HOLMES																								
<p>This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a reply in the above identified application.</p> <p>The requested extension and fee are as follows (check time period desired and enter the appropriate fee below):</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th><u>Fee</u></th> <th><u>Small Entity Fee</u></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> One month (37 CFR 1.17(a)(1))</td> <td>\$120</td> <td>\$60</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Two months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(2))</td> <td>\$450</td> <td>\$225</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Three months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(3))</td> <td>\$1020</td> <td>\$510</td> <td>\$ 510.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Four months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(4))</td> <td>\$1590</td> <td>\$795</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5))</td> <td>\$2160</td> <td>\$1080</td> <td>\$ _____</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				<u>Fee</u>	<u>Small Entity Fee</u>		<input type="checkbox"/> One month (37 CFR 1.17(a)(1))	\$120	\$60	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Two months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(2))	\$450	\$225	\$ _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Three months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(3))	\$1020	\$510	\$ 510.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Four months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(4))	\$1590	\$795	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5))	\$2160	\$1080	\$ _____
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<input type="checkbox"/> Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5))	\$2160	\$1080	\$ _____																							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. <input type="checkbox"/> The Director has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account. <input type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.																										
<p><b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form.          Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>																										
<p>I am the <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> applicant/inventor.  <input type="checkbox"/> assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.          Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed (Form PTO/SB/96).  <input type="checkbox"/> attorney or agent of record. Registration Number _____  <input type="checkbox"/> attorney or agent under 37 CFR 1.34.          Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34 _____</p>																										
 Signature		10/06/06 Date																								
<u>JAMES R. HEIDENREICH</u> Typed or printed name		(701) 639-1170 Telephone Number																								

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

Total of 2 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-8199 and select option 2.

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